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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/620,005	07/16/2003	Yasuhiro Yuki	YUKI1	7470

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EXAMINER	
CHOUDHURY, AZIZUL Q	
ART UNIT	**PAPER NUMBER**
2145	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/21/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/620,005	YUKI, YASUHIRO ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Azizul Choudhury	2145	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *16 July 2003*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-13* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-13* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on *16 July 2003* is/are: a)☒ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☒ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date *2/13/04*.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

Detailed Action

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

Claims 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

In light of Applicant's disclosure, the claimed program is not limited to statutory subject matter, instead being defined as including both statutory (e.g. storage or memory media such as magnetic or optical media, CD-ROM or non-volatile) and non-statutory (e.g. digital signals; conveyed via an electrical connection, optical fiber, or communication medium such as magnetic, optical, electromagnetic, infrared or propagation medium) subject matter. As such, the claims are not limited to statutory subject matter and are therefore non-statutory. See MPEP § 2106.01 for further explanations of statutory and non-statutory computer-related subject matter.

For instance, non-statutory subject matter includes non-functional descriptive material recorded on some computer-readable medium or on an electromagnetic carrier signal and a signal encoded with functional descriptive material. Also, when a claim can be read so broadly as to include statutory and nonstatutory subject matter, it must be amended to limit the claim to statutory subject matter.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

> The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the

art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as based on a disclosure which is not enabling. Elements critical or essential to the practice of the invention, but not included in the claim(s) is not enabled by the disclosure. See *In re Mayhew*, 527 F.2d 1229, 188 USPQ 356 (CCPA 1976). The claimed program is not stored within a statutory computer readable medium.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Yamanoue (US Patent No: 6,745,180 B2).

1. With regards to claim 1, Yamanoue teaches a network terminal setting information management method for storing user information in a terminal connected to a network and setting information of said terminal matching the user information every time said terminal is used to manage the setting information of said terminal, provided with: a step of entering user information

(column 2, lines 35-37, Yamanoue), and a step of collating said entered user information with already stored user information (column 2, lines 38-42, Yamanoue), whereby: the setting information of said terminal stored to match said user information is set in the terminal by replacement if, as a result of said collation, the user information is found identical with already stored user information (column 3, lines 43-55, Yamanoue), or if, as a result of said collation, the user information is not found identical with already stored user information, setting information matching said user information is acquired from a terminal management server via the network and stored (column 3, lines 40-60, Yamanoue).

2. With regards to claim 2, Yamanoue teaches the network terminal setting information management method, whereby, when the user information in the terminal is to be stored, it is differentiated into setting information not dependent on the user information and setting information for each unit of user identifying information (column 4, lines 12-21, Yamanoue).

3. With regards to claim 3, Yamanoue teaches an information terminal device to be connected to a network, provided with: a user information input unit for entering user information (column 2, lines 35-37, Yamanoue), a user list storage unit for storing said user information (column 3, lines 41-44, Yamanoue), a user decision unit for collating user information stored in said user list storage unit and the

entered user information (column 2, lines 38-42, Yamanoue), and a setting information storage region for storing setting information to be referenced, matching each user, in executing functions which said terminal has, wherein: if user information entered as a result of said collation is already present in said user list storage unit, setting information matching the user is read out of the setting information storage region and set in the terminal by replacement, and the setting information is used to connect to the network (column 3,lines 40-60, Yamanoue).

4. With regards to claim 4, Yamanoue teaches the information terminal device, connectable to a terminal management server via the network, wherein if said entered user information is not found identical with already stored user information, terminal setting information matching said entered user information is acquired from a terminal management server via the network, the acquired setting information is set in the terminal by replacement to achieve connection to the network by use of the setting information, and said acquired setting information is stored into the setting information storage region after completion of the network connection (column 3, lines 40-60 and column 10, lines 25-31, Yamanoue).

5. With regards to claim 5, Yamanoue teaches the information terminal device wherein: the user information input unit is provided with an external storage

medium control unit, and user information is read out of an external storage medium by said external storage medium control unit (Figure 1, Yamanoue).

6. With regards to claim 6, Yamanoue teaches the information terminal device wherein the setting information storage region is provided with a function to differentiate, in storing setting information, between setting information not dependent on user information and setting information intrinsic to each user (column 4, liens 12-21, Yamanoue).

7. With regards to claim 7, Yamanoue teaches the information terminal device wherein the user list storage unit also stores a frequency of use of the terminal by each user, and stores setting information of each user into the setting information storage region according to said frequency of use (column 12, line 29, Yamanoue).

8. With regards to claim 8, Yamanoue teaches the information terminal device further provided with: setting information replacement control unit for confirming any vacancy in a capacity of the setting information storage region, wherein said setting information replacement control unit stores setting information of each user according to said vacancy in capacity (column 22, lines 10-16, Yamanoue).

9. With regards to claim 9, Yamanoue teaches the information terminal device wherein a priority in storing setting information ensuing from a user replacement is decided according to a number of times each user has used the information terminal device, the number being held in the user list to be referenced by a user list storage unit, and whether or not to store setting information is determined on the basis of the decision (column 22, lines 17-22, Yamanoue).

10. With regards to claim 10, Yamanoue teaches the information terminal device wherein the setting information to be stored in the setting information storage region is managed in linkage with the user list (column 4, lines 12-21, Yamanoue).

11. With regards to claim 11, Yamanoue teaches the information terminal device wherein the user list storage unit is provided with, separately from the user list, a group list to be referenced by the user list storage unit, and users in one group are caused to share the setting information in the group by giving group attributes on the user list to a plurality of users of the terminal (column 12, lines 48-53, Yamanoue).

12. With regards to claim 12, Yamanoue teaches a program for causing a computer to function as an information terminal device by executing: a processing step to accept entry of user information when the terminal is connected to a network

(column 2, lines 35-37, Yamanoue), a processing step to store, every time the terminal is connected to the network, user information of the terminal and the setting information of said terminal matching the user information (column 3, lines 41-44, Yamanoue), a processing step to collate said entered user information with already stored user information, and a processing step to set the setting information of said terminal, stored to match said user information, in the terminal by replacement if, as a result of said collation, the user information is found identical with the already stored user information (column 3, lines 40-60, Yamanoue).

13. With regards to claim 13, Yamanoue teaches a program for causing a computer to function as an information terminal device by executing: a processing step to accept entry of user information when the terminal is connected to a network (column 2, lines 35-37, Yamanoue), a processing step to store, every time the terminal is connected to the network (column 3, lines 41-44, Yamanoue), user information of the terminal and the setting information of said terminal matching the user information, a processing step to collate said entered user information with already stored user information (column 3, lines 40-60, Yamanoue), and a processing step to acquire setting information matching said user information from a terminal management server via the network and to store it if the user information is not found identical with the already stored user information as a

result of said collation (column 4, lines 12-21, Yamanoue).

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Azizul Choudhury whose telephone number is (571) 272-3909. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jason Cardone can be reached on (571) 272-3933. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AC

JASON CARDONE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER